

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Akio Uchiyama, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

**Serial No:** To be assigned

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** Herewith

**Docket:** 17570

**For:** OPTICAL SCANNING  
OBSERVATION APPARATUS

**Dated:** March 25, 2004

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In connection with the above-identified patent application, kindly enter the following preliminary amendment.

---

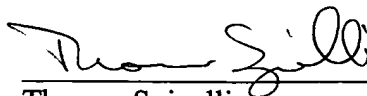
**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"**

**Express Mailing Label No.:** EV219148255US

**Date of Deposit:** March 25, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop Patent Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: March 25, 2004

  
Thomas Spinelli